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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 1650**

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Richard W. Armentrout
Application No. : 10/718,488
Filed : November 20, 2003
For : DNA IN THE PRESENCE OF GELLAN

Examiner : Susan Emily Fernandez
Art Unit : 1651
Docket No. : 850136.422
Date : February 9, 2009

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Commissioner for Patents:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (hereinafter "PTO") on October 7, 2008, please extend the period of time for response one month, to expire on February 9, 2009, in view of the fact that February 7, 2009, falls on a weekend. Enclosed are a Petition for an Extension of Time and authorization for the requisite fee. Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.